

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/779,252	BELLEY ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Thai Tran	2616	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application filed Feb. 07, 2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 February 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>12/19/01 &amp; 7/30/02</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material   | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 3, 11, 13, 21, and 23 are directed to an apparatus/method for processing image data. Independent claims 1, 11, and 21 identify the uniquely distinct features "said image processing instructions include scheduling instructions such that said processing means is configurable to supply graphics requests generated by said players to a graphics rendering process and wherein said scheduling instructions include steps of: (a) identifying existing conditions of said graphics rendering process; (b) comparing required conditions of graphics requests from a plurality of said players with said existing conditions; and (c) scheduling a preferred graphics request in response to comparisons performed by step (b)". The closest prior art, MacInnis et al (US 6,762,762 B2), Xie (US 6,798,420 B1), Salas et al (US 5,317,686), and Murphy et al (US 6,172,669 B1) disclose conventional video and graphics system, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Claims 2-8, 12-18, and 22-28 are directed to an apparatus/method for processing image data. Independent claims 2, 12, and 22 identify the uniquely distinct features "said image processing instructions include scheduling instructions such that said processing means is configurable to supply graphics requests generated by said players to a graphics rendering process and wherein said scheduling instructions include steps of: (a) identifying existing conditions of said graphics rendering process; (b) comparing said existing conditions with required conditions of player graphics requests; (c) selecting a preferred graphics request in response to said comparison of

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required conditions; (d) scheduling a preferred player by processing the due time of said preferred graphics requests of the players with said required and existing conditions; and (e) transferring a preferred graphics request from said scheduled player to said graphics rendering process". The closest prior art, MacInnis et al (US 6,762,762 B2), Xie (US 6,798,420 B1), Salas et al (US 5,317,686), and Murphy et al (US 6,172,669 B1) disclose conventional video and graphics system, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Claims 9-10, 19-20, and 29-30 are directed to an apparatus for processing image data. Independent claims 9, 19, and 29 identify the uniquely distinct features "said image processing instructions include scheduling instructions such that said processing means is configurable to supply graphics requests generated by said players to a graphics rendering process and wherein (a) each frame for a player is defined by multiple graphics requests; (b) graphics requests are selected from players so as to minimize state changes while switching the rendering process from player to player; and (c) players running at higher frame rates have their graphics requests selected more frequently than those running at lower frame rates". The closest prior art, MacInnis et al (US 6,762,762 B2), Xie (US 6,798,420 B1), Salas et al (US 5,317,686), and Murphy et al (US 6,172,669 B1) disclose conventional video and graphics system, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

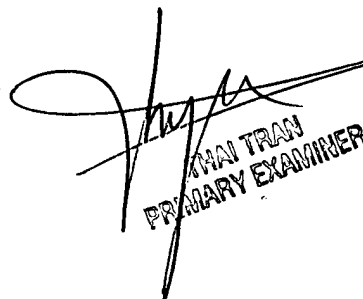
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thai Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4725.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TTQ



THAI TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER